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Clark Vs. Clark

Sen. Joseph S. Clark, D-Penn., says he is concerned about the threat to American freedoms posed by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Central Intelligence Agency.

Clark says the nation is beset by a "military-industrial complex," FBI "blackmail" of those who criticize director J. Edgar Hoover, and CIA's "position of power" which is "pretty close to the danger line."

Clark believes these things menace "the privacy of the individual citizen" and constitute "major threats to the successful survival of American democracy."

It is interesting to hear Sen. Clark, one of the U.S. Senate's ultra-Liberal members and a spokesman for the radical Americans for Democratic Action, speaking out against threats to individual privacy through concentrations of power. We wonder, however, just how good Sen. Clark's credentials are on this subject.

For the truth of the matter is that Sen. Clark is a zealous advocate of dismantling the American constitutional system, of heaping up government power in unlimited quantities, and of "policing" the American citizenry. Among Clark's various statements on these subjects are the following:

"A liberal is here defined as one who believes in using the full force of government for the advancement of social, political and economic justice at the municipal, state national, and international levels . . ."

"Spiritually and economically

youth is conditioned to respond to a liberal program of orderly policing of society by government, subject to the popular will, in the interest of social justice . . ."

"They plan well in Russia. There someone decides where little Ivan is going to work. If, at the age of eleven, he seems unresponsive, he goes back to the collective farm . . ."

Clark disparages America's system of balanced government limiting power, saying "this original conception, favoring inaction," made sense in the days of George III, but adding: "Does it still do so? I think not."

The Pennsylvania senator wants America to have a "planned economy," controlled by Washington, in which government decides where people will work. He recalls nostalgically that during World War II, military authorities "determined where one served the cause of freedom."

Clark wants something of the same sort now, emulating the good "planning" of the Russians through "persuasion" instead of compulsion. "How can we use both the carrot and the stick," he asks, to get young people "trained and on their way to where they are needed?" That "stick" combined with that "policing" sounds a little ominous.

Thus Sen. Joe Clark, guardian of our liberties. For our part, we think the libertarian counsel of someone who doesn't think "they plan well in Russia" might be a little more believable.

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